



Group of 78 Luncheon Speaker Series

## John Foster



### ***“Petroleum and Geopolitics: Rivalries in Syria, Iraq, Ukraine”***

**DATE: Tuesday January 26, 2016**

**TIME: 12:00 noon (sharp)**

**PLACE: Palais Imperial Restaurant, 311- 313 Dalhousie St., Ottawa**

**COST: \$30 for luncheon and presentation**

**\$5 for presentation only**

**(For presentation only, please plan to arrive by 12:45 p.m. Coffee and tea will be available.)**

**RESERVATIONS: [Group78@group78.org](mailto:Group78@group78.org) 613-565-9449 by Friday January 22, 2016**

**We regret that late registrations cannot be accepted.**

*The group is required to pay for those who reserve but do not come.*

*Therefore, individuals who do not cancel their reservations at least 24 hours before the luncheon will be billed \$30.*

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Whatever the stated reasons for conflict, resources are often an underlying motivation. Governments and media offer limited versions of what is going on. John Foster’s talk addresses current narratives on Syria, Iraq and Ukraine. Conflicts in all three countries involve geopolitical and petroleum rivalries within the region, and the larger rivalries between the US, Russia and China.

John Foster is an international petroleum economist, who has worked on staff of the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank and two oil companies (BP and Petro-Canada). He has presented his research on the petroleum connection in talks across Canada, most recently sponsored by the Canadian International Council. A recent article in Open Canada is “[The Petroleum Factor](#): Are oil and gas being left out of current conflict narratives?”.

His earlier research on Afghanistan and pipeline politics was presented to the G78 at a 2008 luncheon, was [published](#) by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, and became banner [headlines](#) in the Globe and Mail (19 June 2008). Other articles have appeared in the Globe and Mail, Toronto Star, and Journal of Energy Security (Washington DC).